



MEETING SUMMARY

Date: August 2, 2004

Topics:

- Site Transition from Environmental Management to Legacy Management
- Revision B of the Institutional Controls Plan
- Coalition Leadership

Attendees:

Fernald Citizens Advisory Board

Jim Bierer
Lisa Crawford
Robert Tabor
Steve Depoe

FRESH

Carol Schoer
Edwa Yocum

The Perspectives Group

David Bidwell
Doug Sarno

U.S. Department of Energy

Jack Craig
Madhav Ghate
Jane Powell

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Donna Bohannon
Tom Schneider
Michelle Waller

Fluor Fernald

Ken Alkema
Ric Strobl
Jeff Wagner
Sue Walpole

Other

Jim Innis, Fernald Living History
Emily Young, Morgan Historical Society

David Bidwell called the meeting to order and asked the attendees to introduce themselves.

Updates and Announcements

David informed the CAB that he had received an email from Barbara Crandell at the Native American Alliance of Ohio. She wants to be involved in the Coalition, but couldn't be at the meeting due to family medical issues.

Jim Innis announced that Fernald Living History would be holding a picnic on August 21 to celebrate the organization's new 501c3 status.

David updated the Committee on the status of the Natural Resource Damages settlement. He explained that DOE's counsel from the Department of Justice sent a letter to the State of Ohio claiming that there was not a groundswell of support for the construction of an education center at the site. A response letter refuting that claim was drafted by the FCAB and mailed to DOE on July 23. Doug Sarno told the group the court date tentatively scheduled for July had not occurred, and that talks are continuing between DOE and Ohio. David reiterated the importance of spreading the word that stewardship activities are important.

Transition from EM to LM

Jane Powell of the DOE Office of Legacy Management (LM) thanked the group for the opportunity to speak at the meeting, and commended the phenomenal progress made at the site thus far. Jane presented slides addressing the following:

- Legacy Management mission statement
- Legacy Management Organization
- Fernald Closure Project Team
- Site Transfer Timing and Triggers
- Fernald Closure Project Timeline for Transition
- Current Transition Activities
- Legacy Management points of contact

Jane explained that the Property Office would handle the transfer of trailers from DOE to the community. Lisa Crawford responded that there has been confusion between EM and LM regarding who is in charge of what aspect of long-term stewardship. Jane explained that the site is still in EM hands, and that LM is attending meetings and reviewing past minutes to learn more about the issues. Jack Craig added that LM wants to understand the history, and if DOE makes a commitment to something, LM will honor it.

Doug explained to Jack and Jane that, in the past, EM made commitments that they were unwilling or unable to keep. A cogent response has never been received to the concepts in the *Telling the Story of Fernald* report. In the beginning, EM agreed with the community that an education facility and other long-term stewardship activities were important. Now, EM views them as "extras", while the community still believes that these things are vitally important. The community is feels betrayed and disappointed, and they want to know what DOE's real intentions are for public information and community based access.

Steve Depoe stated that the accelerated cleanup plan saved the government billions of dollars, and future lawsuits could be avoided by practicing true long-term stewardship activities. Lisa stated that DOE has a different definition of risk, than the community. She also noted that EM leadership has rarely visited the Fernald site.

Bob Tabor explained that the decision makers at EM and LM were never clearly defined. David agreed that it is important to learn who is in charge of what in order to stay adequately informed. Doug informed Jane Powell that the FCAB was instructed to provide comments and recommendations to EM *only*, not LM, because it was chartered by EM.

Jack Craig informed the group that DOE plans to have a Southwest Ohio representative located in Springdale before FY05. The position will report to Dave Geiser and Jack Craig. The actual hiring would likely occur after the November election.

Jane explained that Fernald's Comprehensive Stewardship Plan and its Institutional Controls Plans are being combined into one document to satisfy a requirement for site transition. Revision B, Volume 2 of the Plan will be available online, and copies were available at the meeting. David explained that while some past comments from the Committee were incorporated into this version of the plan, the overall recommendation to include community based stewardship concepts in the plan had not been addressed. The Committee agreed to draft a recommendation addressing that issue and send it to the FCAB for approval. Jane reminded the Committee that the more specific the comments are, the better. Members of the coalition suggested that the letter be a joint letter from the FCAB and their organizations.

Coalition

Ric Strobl distributed a handout detailing that the post-1992 photographs had been sorted into mission, and non-mission categories. Steve reviewed a letter from Bill Taylor to Fernald Living History, Inc. regarding the cataloging and archiving of pre-1992 photos. Steve expressed disappointment with the lack of detail in the letter. The letter and response will be discussed in depth at the next CAB meeting.

David asked the Committee to review the current Coalition Contacts table, take it with them, and add as much information to it as possible. Doug explained that it is very important that the Committee step up and not just identify the usual suspects, but to identify national organizations and foundations as well.

David explained that it is difficult for the Stewardship Committee to discuss site transition issues and the Coalition to discuss post-closure education issues during the same meeting, due to limited time. David reviewed possible leadership scenarios for the Coalition. The scenarios are:

- Continue meeting as a Coalition and apply for 501c3 status
- Work with other groups for possible funding
- Work with community improvement organizations
- Have Fernald Living History, Inc. act as a convener

Lisa added that FRESH is discussing these issues, and that F-CHEC would also like to add input. These organizations will discuss the issue prior to the next Stewardship Committee meeting. David stated that Sue Walpole is actively researching education programs. Doug stated that the CAB would remain active in the Coalition.

The 2004 FCAB Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, September 18. The next Stewardship Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 16 in Trailer 214 at the Fernald site.